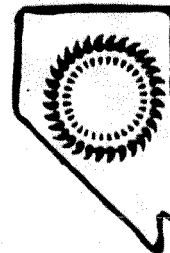


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



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SYNOPSIS

STATE PUBLICATIONS

Nevada climate during August was a mixed bag as most of the State had less precipitation than usual, but scattered locations had thunderstorms and spotty heavy rainfall. Temperatures also followed this pattern with many areas having a warmer than normal month, while others were somewhat colder than usual. Flooding caused by brief heavy localized rains was extant in the Vegas Valley and on nearby Mt. Charleston, and in parts of Central and extreme Northeast Nevada. With many areas of frost each month, Summer 1995 will be remembered for its coolness, brevity, and lingering snow banks at higher elevations.

TEMPERATURE

Departure from normal ranged from 1-3 degrees below normal in the North and Northeast to 1-4 degrees above normal in the West, South, East, and Central portions of Nevada. For example, Las Vegas was 4 degrees above, Reno 3 degrees above, and Elko 3 degrees below normal. A rather persistent warm southerly flow dominated the Southern 2/3 of the State.

Extreme readings were not near the August record low of 10 degrees set in 1993 at both Charleston and San Jacinto. Monthly lows dropped into the 20's at several locations, with 21 at Mountain City, 24 at San Jacinto and Wildhorse Reservoir, and 26 at Reese River, with several other locations in the hi 20's.

On the high side, on the 3rd, Laughlin tied the Nevada August record high with 121 degrees. The same temperature was recorded at Cottonwood Cove in August 1992. Other warm temperatures this month were 117 degrees at Callville Bay, Echo Bay, Boulder Beach and Overton Beach.

Honors this month for the "biggest warmup" go to Mountain City where the low on the 21st was 22 degrees, with 90 degrees just 8 hours later!

PRECIPITATION

Except for a few outstandingly wet areas due to thunderstorm activity, precipitation was drier than normal during August. The biggest totals were from Southern Nevada where Kyle Canyon had 4.90" with 1.75" on the 21st and 2.02" on the 22nd. Nearby Lee Canyon had 2.46" for the month. Down in the "flatlands" 3/4 of an inch of rain fell in 15 minutes on the west side of Las Vegas on the 22nd. Other wet spots in Nevada during August were Belmont with 2.07" and Jackpot where 1.99" fell, with 1.65" on the 23rd causing local flooding.

SUNSHINE, WIND & EVAPORATION

Sunshine was above normal this month, with less wind than usual, although peak gusts reached over 50 mph at several locations in Central and Southern Nevada. Evaporation was above normal in all but the Northern 1/4 of the State. Overton had 16.59" of pan evaporation, with 13.71" at Pahrump, 9.95" at Honey Lake Fleming, and 9.84" at Ruby Lake. Fallon had 9.07", Shoshone had 9.01", Reno-UNR 7.32", Oroville 7.35", Gund Ranch 7.02" and Minden 6.89".

NOTE: Over 60 storage precipitation gages are located at higher elevations in the State. These sites are visited once each year in the summer, measured and then charged with oil and anti-freeze to prevent evaporation and to keep the precipitation catch liquid so it will not cap over the gage and be lost. Such gages give valuable information about areas that are not inhabited but are very important in understanding Nevada's climate and water availability.

Statewide, the wettest location in Nevada, other than the east slopes of the Sierra Nevada, was the Angel Lake storage gage at 8000 feet in the East Humboldt Range south of Wells, where 51.45" fell, or about 1 & 1/2 times normal. Second wettest was at 7600 foot Hinkley Summit near Paradise Valley, where 39.58" fell, and at the 10,000 foot level of Great Basin National Park where the 38.52" that was measured is also about 1 & 1/2 times normal. In the South at 8400 feet at Lee Canyon on Mt. Charleston, 36.60" fell with 35.10" at nearby 7500 foot Kyle Canyon. "Normal" is about 20".

With regard to the highest and lowest percent of normal precipitation, Robert's Ranch (27.45") in Clark County and White Horse Pass (16.25") in Elko County enjoyed twice normal rain/snow melt, while Coon Creek Summit (near Jarbidge) had "just a normal" 34.40".

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State Climatologist

STORAGE GAGE INDEX

<u>*Storage Gage Number</u>	<u>Elevation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>1960-91 Averages</u>	<u>1994-95 Precip.</u>
1	8400	Coon Creek Summit	34.32	34.40
2	7400	Pratt Creek	17.55	18.60
3	6700	Hanks Creek	10.28	13.30
4	6200	West Fork Beaver Creek	13.54	15.90
5	7725	Jacks Creek Pass	32.00	35.65
6	6900	California Creek	12.89	15.00
7	6250	Willow Creek Summit	12.88	16.85
8	6545	Adobe Summit	14.62	17.05
9	8000	Angel Lake	35.27	51.45
10	7200	Soldier Creek	17.43	27.85
11	7500	Rattlesnake Creek	22.43	32.15
12	7300	Harrison Pass	16.78	24.15
13	6033	White Horse Pass	8.43	16.25
14	5690	Sadler Ranch	8.90	13.35
15	6200	Limerick Pass	12.60	14.70
16	8150	Shelbourne Pass	13.49	24.80
17	6740	Overland Pass No. 2	12.69	18.00
18	7630	Robinson Summit	12.56	22.00
19	7320	Conners Pass	13.87	22.25
20	9950	+ Wheeler Camp	26.67	38.52
21	7400	+ Little Antelope Summit	13.80	17.75
22	8500	Charnac Basin	12.58	18.15
23	6750	Kingson Creek	15.24	24.00
25	6900	+ Pine Nut Creek Summit	---	NEW
26	7900	+ Leviathan Aspen Grove, CA	---	27.45
27	8000	+ Pine Grove Loddell	---	N/A
28	6985	Ione	10.97	15.30
29	6820	Currant Creek Summit	12.37	21.70
30	7100	Wilson Creek Pass	16.14	28.15
31	3250	Bunkerville Mountain	6.28	7.50
32	3777	McCullough Pass	6.23	8.70
33	7400	Cold Creek Canyon	16.27	30.30
34	7685	Wheeler Pass	14.45	25.60
35	8400	Lee Canyon	22.35	36.60
36	9050	Adams Ranch	20.13	30.75
37	4000	Spring Mountain Ranch	10.90	18.90
38	7500	Kyle Canyon	19.90	35.10
39	6000	Upper Williams Ranch	14.39	24.75
40	6000	Roberts Ranch	13.72	27.45
41	7200	+ Como-Rawe	15.44	25.75
42	7520	+ Carroll Summit	17.70	24.90
43	7350	+ Risue Summit	13.50	22.70
44	8100	+ Lucky Boy Pass	13.01	20.90
46	7000	+ Lebo Spring Summit	15.72	22.55
47	7150	+ Sweetwater Summit	---	NEW
48	5950	+ Elbow West	---	N/A
49	5850	+ Cloverdale Ranch	---	N/A
51	7150	+ Slater's Mine	---	23.80
52	7600	+ Hinkey Summit	---	39.58
53	7100	+ Tybo	---	18.30
54	8000	+ Pete's Summit	---	15.00
55	7300	+ Scott's Summit	---	20.75
56	6500	+ Railroad Pass	---	N/A
57	6600	+ Hickison Summit	---	7.50
58	7500	+ Anchorite Pass	---	NEW
59	6200	+ Monte Cristo	---	NEW
60	6875	+ Baxter Spring Summit	---	NEW
61	6100	+ Cabin Creek	---	NEW
62	7000	Pequop Summit	---	35.25
63	8000	+ Shoshone Canyon	---	NEW
64	7150	+ Sweetwater Summit	---	NEW
65	7800	+ Spruce Mountain	---	NEW
66	3900	+ Sand Pass	---	NEW

+ State Climatology Office (Others-- State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources- Elko, Carson City, and Las Vegas Offices).

* For locations gage numbers are keyed to the Nevada Climate Map.

NEVADA CLIMATE STATIONS

